



MEMORANDUM

TO: Satpal Sidhu, County Executive
FROM: Charlene Ramont, Assistant Director
RE: North Sound Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization, LLC –
Integrated Care Network Contract
DATE: January 26, 2026

Attached is a contract between Whatcom County and North Sound Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization for your review and signature.

▪ **Background and Purpose**

The purpose of this contract is to recognize and allocate revenue to Whatcom County for its participation in the North Sound Integrated Care Network (ICN), with the overarching aim of fostering continuity of care for individuals, mitigating service interruptions, ensuring the continued provision of behavioral health services, and reinforcing the regional service infrastructure.

Whatcom County participates in the ICN along with Island, San Juan, Skagit, and Snohomish Counties. The North Sound Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization administers the ICN, facilitating the cooperative delivery of a community health program and regional system of care. The collective aim of these efforts is to streamline administrative functions, minimize administrative redundancy, and reduce associated costs, in alignment with the legislative policy of the State of Washington as stipulated in [RCW 71.24](#).

▪ **Funding Amount and Source**

The total revenue allocated through this grant for the period of 01/01/2026 – 06/30/2026 is not to exceed \$725,761.41. These funds are included in the 2026 budget. The contract includes provisions for automatic, annual renewals. Council authorization is required as the additional grant funding provided by this amendment exceeds \$40,000, per WCC 3.06.010.

▪ **Differences between Previous Contracts**

This is a new contract; however, revenue for these programs has been provided through previous contracts since 2016. Differences from the agreement that ended on 12/31/2025 (WC Contract #202304013) are as follows:

- Alternative Response Team (ART): No changes – \$166,379 total funding
- Dedicated Cannabis Account (DCA): No changes – \$41,719 total funding
- Jail Transition Services: No changes – \$38,329 total funding
- Opiate Outreach: Changes to the title. It was called Substance Abuse Block Grant (SABG) and is now called Substance Use Prevention Treatment and Recovery Support Services (SUPTRS) – \$203,114 total funding
- Blake Recovery Navigator: Changes to the title. It was called Proviso Recovery Navigator and placed into its own contract. The name was changed to Blake Recovery Navigator and combined into this ICN contract. The amount was not changed – \$256,227.50 total funding
- Trueblood: No change – \$19,992.91 total funding

Please contact Malora Christensen, Response Systems Manager at 360-778-6131 (MChriste@co.whatcom.wa.us) if you have any questions or concerns regarding this request.